

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of providing automatic prompting for printer ink refill of
2 a printer connected to a communication device, the method comprising:
3 monitoring the printer for an ink refill signal; and
4 automatically delivering a user notification to a user of the communication
5 device connected to the printer upon receiving the ink refill signal associated with the
6 printer.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the ink refill signal is generated by
2 an ink level sensor of the printer upon sensing a low ink level.

1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying the printer
2 model and ink refill product for the printer.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the printer model is identified
2 from the printer driver in the communication device.

1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein the ink refill product for the
2 printer is identified by accessing an ink refill product identification source.

1 6. The method of claim 3, further comprising retrieving information
2 for the ink refill product for the printer from an information source and delivering the
3 retrieved information to the communication device connected to the printer.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the retrieved information for the
2 ink refill product comprises product, supplier, pricing, and shipping information.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the retrieved information for the
2 ink refill product comprises product, supplier, pricing, and shipping information from a
3 plurality of suppliers.

1 9. The method of claim 7, further comprising facilitating an order for
2 the ink refill product by a user via the communication device.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein facilitating comprises launching a
2 web browser to provide on-line shopping to the user of the communication device.

1 11. The method of claim 7, further comprising retrieving wallet
2 information associated with a user of the communication device connected to the printer.

1 12. The method of claim 6, wherein the information is delivered to the
2 communication device by launching of a web browser configured to display the retrieved
3 information from one or more websites.

1 13. The method of claim 6, wherein the information is delivered to the
2 communication device using a default format.

1 14. The method of claim 6, wherein the information is delivered to the
2 communication device using a format selected by a user of the communication device.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the format is selected from the
2 group consisting of alerts, always-active formats, button-press-required formats, and e-
3 mail notifications.

1 16. The method of claim 6, wherein the type of information to be
2 delivered to the communication device is preselected by a user of the communication
3 device.

1 17. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication device
2 comprises an Internet-enabled television system.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the Internet-enabled television
2 system provides a graphical user interface, and wherein delivering the user notification
3 comprises displaying the user notification in a designated area of the graphical user
4 interface.

1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein delivering the user notification
2 comprises superimposing the user notification over a television program displayed by the
3 Internet-enabled television system.

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein superimposing the user
2 notification comprises horizontally scrolling the superimposed notification in a ticker
3 format.

1 21. The method of claim 17, further comprising:
2 retrieving information of the ink refill product for the printer and
3 delivering the delivered information to the communication device connected to the
4 printer; and
5 displaying the retrieved information on the Internet-enabled television
6 system in response to a subsequent user action.

1 22. The method of claim 17, wherein delivering a user notification
2 comprises sending an e-mail message to a user of the communication device.

1 23. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication device
2 comprises a computer device.

1 24. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication device
2 comprises a network server in a computer network system.

1 25. A system of providing automatic prompting for printer ink refill of
2 a printer connected to a communication device, the system comprising:
3 a printer monitoring component configured to monitor the printer for an
4 ink refill signal; and
5 a user notification component within the communication device configured
6 to automatically notify a user of the communication device in response to receipt of the
7 ink refill signal.

1 26. The system of claim 25, further comprising an information retrieval
2 component configured to retrieve ink refill information for the printer.

1 27. The system of claim 26, further comprising an information delivery
2 component configured to deliver the retrieved information to the communication device
3 in response to receipt of the ink refill signal.

1 28. The system of claim 27, further comprising a communication
2 channel reservation component configured to reserve a communication channel for
3 delivery of information to the communication device.

1 29. The system of claim 27, further comprising an on-line shopping
2 component configured to facilitate on-line shopping of one or more ink refill products on
3 the Internet.

1 30. The system of claim 27, further comprising a user customization
2 component configured to receive a user selection of a notification format for delivery of
3 the information.

1 31. The system of claim 25, wherein the communication device
2 comprises an Internet-enable television system.

1 32. The system of claim 31, wherein the Internet-enabled television
2 system provides a graphical user interface, and wherein the user notification component is
3 further configured to display the information in a designated area of the graphical user
4 interface.

1 33. The system of claim 31, wherein the user notification component is
2 further configured to superimpose the information over a television program displayed by
3 the Internet-enabled television system.

1 34. The system of claim 33, wherein the user notification component is
2 further configured to horizontally scroll the superimposed information in a ticker format.

1 35. The system of claim 31, further comprising:
2 an information retrieval component configured to retrieve ink refill
3 information for the printer; and
4 an information delivery component configured to deliver the retrieved
5 information to the communication device in response to receipt of the ink refill signal,
6 wherein the user notification component is further configured to display a
7 delivery notice on the Internet-enabled television system and displaying the retrieved
8 information on the Internet-enabled television system in response to a subsequent user
9 action.

1 36. The system of claim 31, wherein the user notification component is
2 further configured to send an e-mail message to the user.

